

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-88. (canceled)

89. (currently amended) A method for suppressing differentiation of ~~undifferentiated blood cells~~ blood precursor cells and hematopoietic stem cells in vitro, comprising contacting said cells in vitro with a serrate-1 peptide, thereby suppressing differentiation of said cells, and wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 5.

90. (previously presented) A method for suppressing differentiation of ~~undifferentiated blood cells~~ blood precursor cells and hematopoietic stem cells in vitro, comprising contacting said cells in vitro with a serrate-1 peptide, thereby suppressing differentiation of said cells, and wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 6.

91. (previously presented) A method for suppressing differentiation of ~~undifferentiated blood cells~~ blood precursor cells and hematopoietic stem cells in vitro, comprising contacting said cells in vitro with a serrate-1 peptide, thereby suppressing differentiation of said cells, and wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 7.

92-97. (canceled)

98. (new) A method, comprising contacting blood precursor cells and hematopoietic stem cells in vitro with a serrate-1 peptide, wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 5.

99. (new) A method, comprising contacting blood precursor cells and hematopoietic stem cells in vitro with a serrate-1 peptide, wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 6.

100. (new) A method, comprising contacting blood precursor cells and hematopoietic stem cells in vitro with a serrate-1 peptide, wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 7.